

Under clause 8 of Rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table as follows:

COMMUNICATION 02324 from the

Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, Department of Defense

transmitting

the Department's Evaluation of the Tricare Program FY 2003 Report to Congress, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1073 note.

Referred to the Committee on Armed Services. May 21, 2003.



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1200 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

HEALTH AFFAIRS

APR 29 2003

RECEIVED

03 APR 29 2003 15

SPEAKER'S OFFICE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APR 3 2003

120 010

7 0 24

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am pleased to provide you with the enclosed Department of Defense Evaluation of the TRICARE Program Fiscal Year 2003 Report to Congress. This report responds to the annual requirement outlined in Section 717 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996, Public Law 104-106, which requires the Assistant Secretary of Defense to conduct an evaluation of the effectiveness of TRICARE in meeting the goals of improving access and quality of healthcare for our beneficiaries, while controlling costs for them and for the government. The enclosed report and appendix represents the results of the Department's effort to meet these objectives as outlined in the public law.

I thank you for your continued support of the Department's TRICARE Program.

Sincerely,


William Winkenwerder, Jr., MD

Enclosure:
As stated